

ABSTRACT

The present invention relates to methods and compositions designed for the treatment, management, or prevention of a non-neoplastic hyperproliferative cell or excessive cell accumulation disorders, particularly those involving hyperproliferation of epithelial or endothelial cells. In one embodiment, the methods of the invention comprise the administration of an effective amount of one or more EphA2 agonistic agents that bind to EphA2 and increase EphA2 cytoplasmic tail phosphorylation and/or increase EphA2 autophosphorylation. in cells which EphA2 has been agonized. In another embodiment, the methods of the invention comprise the administration of an effective amount of one or more EphA2 agonistic agents that bind to EphA2 and reduce EphA2 activity (other than autophosphorylation). In another embodiment, the methods of the invention comprise administration of an effective amount of one or more EphA2 agonistic agents that bind to EphA2 and decrease a pathology-causing cell phenotype (*e.g.*, a pathology-causing epithelial cell phenotype or a pathology-causing endothelial cell phenotype). In another embodiment, the methods of the invention comprise the administration of an effective amount of one or more EphA2 agonistic agents that are EphA2 antibodies that bind to EphA2 with a very low K_{off} rate. In preferred embodiments, agents of the invention are monoclonal antibodies. The invention also provides pharmaceutical compositions comprising one or more EphA2 agonistic agents of the invention either alone or in combination with one or more other agents useful in therapy for non-neoplastic hyperproliferative cell or excessive cell accumulation disorders.